

**Trail Use Policy within the Boundaries of Federal Energy Commission
Project No. 2100 and within the Lake Oroville State Recreation Area**

TRANSCRIPT OF PUBLIC MEETING

**February 10, 2003
6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.
The State Theater
1489 Myers Street
Oroville, California**

Note: This transcript is posted as received by the Department of Water Resources on March 25, 2003. DWR does not make any claims regarding its accuracy or completeness. Please call the transcription service, Switzer and Associates, at (530) 342-0199 if you have any questions.

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3 THE STATE THEATRE
4 489 Myer Street
5 Oroville, California
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10 February 10th, 2003
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12 The Department of Water Resources is pleased to
13 announce a special meeting to obtain public input on
14 the shared use of recreational trails in the Lake
15 Oroville State Recreation Area by bicyclists,
16 equestrians, and hikers.

17 The meeting went verbatim, as follows:
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20 ORIGINAL
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1 Oroville, California, 6:00 p.m.

2 FACILITATOR: Patti Kroen:

3 Good evening, I'd like to welcome everyone here to
4 the meeting tonight. Before we get started with the
5 meeting, I have an individual who would like to make
6 a statement, a point of order. So I'm going to
7 yield the microphone to Steve here, so please
8 introduce yourself Steve, and make sure that the
9 transcriber gets your name spelled correctly.

10 STEVEN PROE: Thank you Patty. My name is Steven
11 with a V. Last name, spelled P-R-O-E, and I live in
12 Greenwood, California. I have a point of order to
13 make, and this is not to the people that have come
14 to attend the meeting at all. This is to whoever
15 has put this meeting on.

16 My point of order is this meeting should not be
17 held because it was not noticed correctly, and it
18 did not describe the facts and events that put this
19 meeting on, it has neglected to add many impacts,
20 many notices, and the correspondence that set forth
21 the facts that put this meeting into motion. So I
22 hereby request that this meeting be canceled,
23 rescheduled, renoticed with the proper information
24 for the reason that this meeting is being held, and
25 then reheld. Thank you, very much.

1 MS. KROEN: Dan, do you want to cancel
2 the meeting and reschedule it?

3 MR. PETERSON: No. I think the meeting
4 will go on, and I appreciate his comments, but the
5 meeting will go on.

6 CITIZEN: Can you go to the microphone
7 please, so we can hear here.

8 MR. PETERSON: My name is Dan Peterson,
9 I'm with the Department of Water Resources, and not
10 with standing the comments you just heard, the
11 meeting will continue, and we will take comments.
12 So thank you, for those of you who have taken time
13 out of your evening to attend.

14 MS. KROEN: Again, my name is Patti
15 Kroen, and I'm here tonight to help facilitate this
16 meeting. This is a no frills meeting. We have a
17 screen here, but we have no power point presentation
18 for you. We have no fancy speelshs. This meeting
19 is, is to get your input. And I've asked the folks
20 who well make a couple of introductory comments, to
21 keep them brief so, so there is an adequate amount
22 of time to hear what you have to say, and so that we
23 get it recorded correctly. So again, the purpose is
24 to hear your, your comments here. The time is going
25 to be limited. I have the first stack of, of

1 comment cards, and I'm counting about 50 here. If,
2 if we consider that we have about a 150 minutes set
3 aside for the meeting tonight for, for your verbal
4 comments, that only gives you about two and half
5 minutes each or so, or three minutes each to speak.
6 If you have written comments and intended to read
7 your written comments into the record, I want to let
8 you know you're written comments can be submitted,
9 they carry the same amount of weight as a verbal
10 comment. So if you want to bring in a written
11 comment in or written letter, and maybe hit the
12 highlights of it, and then hand that letter in, you
13 can hand that in tonight. Darlene is back at the
14 table in the foyer, and she'd be happy to take it,
15 or you can mail your comments. There is an address
16 included in the handouts that you were given
17 tonight, that indicate the location to which you
18 should send any written correspondence that you want
19 to have incorporated into the record and considered.
20 I, I understand that you're here because you feel a
21 need to be here. You have an -- excuse me, a
22 concern, or a comment, or vision of the trails for
23 this area, and that's really what we want to hear
24 from you, is what you're, maybe what you're trail
25 experience is, your insights as users of these

1 trails, and your prospective about the current
2 proposed, or future management of the trails. I put
3 some notes up here on the board, and I want to go
4 through them real quickly with you, and then I'm
5 going to have these folks give an um of comments,
6 and we'll get started. I think you can hear me, I
7 have never been accused of being quiet. Of the, I
8 know these might be printed sort of small, but when
9 we're standing in line waiting to come up to speak,
10 you may want do review them.

11 You're going approach the microphone when
12 you're called. I have a stack of cards and as I
13 read through the names, and I'll try to call ten at
14 a time so that you know when you're coming up to
15 speak. Please try to stay in that order, approach
16 the microphone, provide your name and your
17 affiliation, if you have any or organization that
18 your representing, or if you're a resident, or just
19 a concerned citizen. Make sure the transcriber has
20 your name correctly, if you need to spell it like
21 with my last name is notoriously spelled wrong, so
22 make sure you get your name spelled correctly, then
23 I'll start the timer. I have a little stop watch up
24 here, I'm going to time you, we're going to start
25 with three minutes each for your comments, if

1 there's time left at the end, and you have,
2 something else to say, and everyone that is here has
3 had an opportunity to speak, your certainly invited
4 to come back up to the microphone but we want to let
5 everybody has an opportunity. Okay. So speak
6 loudly, and clearly when you come up to the
7 microphone, limit your comments to the allotted
8 time. Written comments will be accepted and
9 encouraged and folks, on the trails issue. I know a
10 lot of you in this audience from our, our efforts on
11 the relicensing meeting um, process, and I know that
12 you feel very strongly, not only about this issue,
13 but about the process. Use your time wisely so that
14 you get your vision and your feelings about the
15 trails out, and everyone can hear you. Um, with that
16 I'm going to introduce Dan Peterson. On your
17 agenda, one of the hands outs that you have, shows a
18 brief agenda, and it shows Dan speaking on the
19 Federal Energy Regulatory Commissions' role, and
20 then it skips to Ken McKowen, who is going to speak
21 on DPR's role, and then back to DWR. I've asked Dan
22 to do all his at once so he's not popping up and
23 down and it might save so time, so, Dan.

24 MR. PETERSON: Thank you, Patti. Again,
25 I want to thank you everyone for taking time out of

1 their evening to come to this meeting. And to
2 reiterate what Patti said, I know this is an
3 important issue, it's sensitive issue with you, and
4 the Department is here to hear your comments. Some
5 of you have felt this is long overdue, and you could
6 be right, but we're here to listen to you.

7 I want to talk a little bit about FERC. Is
8 there anyone here from FERC? I hate to talk about
9 another agency if there's someone here that can
10 speak better about it, but not with standing that, I
11 will speak on behalf of FERC.

12 As many of you know, FERC issued DWR license to
13 operate the power facilities in lake Oroville in
14 1957. FERC regulations require, and they actually
15 didn't require until the mid 60s, that a recreation
16 plan be submitted with every license, and the
17 Department has a plan. It was developed in 1993 and
18 approved by FERC in 1994. Um, FERC has in
19 relationship to the shared trails use policy that
20 was implemented by Parks and recreation last year.
21 FERC has felt that that is inconsistent with our
22 approved recreation plan, and they have asked us if
23 that if this is to remain that, that we need to
24 amend our recreation plan to reflect that. They had
25 also requested that we need public input into that

1 plan amendment process, and this is obviously one of
2 the reasons why we're here tonight. They did find,
3 much to our satisfaction, that there was no license
4 violation on the part of the Department in
5 implementing this. FERC also requested that late
6 last year in the letter they sent us in November,
7 that we asked Parks and Recreation to revert the
8 trails back to their former use. After talking to
9 FERC, we had rerequested in another letter that we
10 not convert the trails back, that we leave them as
11 they are now until a later date, at which time DWR
12 submits a request to FERC to take action or before
13 that or after that FERC takes action independently.
14 We have not heard back from FERC on that request.
15 But we are awaiting a reply at any time. And uh,
16 last but not least in terms of what FERC has told
17 us, and this is verbal from FERC, they will
18 basically do what they feel is appropriate at the
19 time we submit our request. We have to submit a
20 question um, on our plan amendment, if we submit
21 one, by the first of April of this year. FERC has
22 told us that they will take that plan, and the
23 information that we submit to them, and the request,
24 and they will reannounce it, and open it up for
25 public comment, again. So if FERC follows through

1 with what they told us verbally they're going to do,
2 there will be another public comment period. I
3 don't know that there would be a public meeting, but
4 at least a public comment period on what ever
5 request we submit to FERC, and that would be
6 sometime after April of this year, I, I suspect it
7 could easily be sixty to ninety days after April.

8 So in a nutshell that's, that's FERC's role in,
9 in this process. Now to go to DWR, which fits hand
10 in hand with that, it's obvious that FERC issued us
11 a license, we're the licensed holder, and so we have
12 a license to -- many, many conditions of that
13 license to comply with. One of which is the
14 recreation plan that we may seek to amend. One of
15 the other things the Department does is that we try
16 to, under the hospices of our FERC license, is
17 reconcile differences between federal regulations,
18 and state law as many of you may know, in California
19 The State Department of Parks and Recreation,
20 operates recreation facilities at state water
21 project facilities, and it's very clear under the
22 state law that they have authority to do that, and
23 in most cases they do. We operate the water end of
24 the business, and they operate the parks end of the
25 business. When you get into a FERC license it's

1 that gets twisted a little bit because FERC has
2 federal authority over us as a licensee, and can
3 order us to do things that we don't typically do in
4 other locations, and maybe are not particularly well
5 equipped to do. So we try and when these issues
6 arise we try to reconcile them between us and parks,
7 if needed we will seek to amend our license to
8 clarify what is a current condition which would be,
9 the case in a license amendment that we may be
10 filing here in six weeks or so.

11 And along with the Department of Parks and
12 Recreation we also seek to optimize recreational
13 opportunities at state water project facilities.
14 Uh, we will conduct meetings and solicit public
15 input on issues such as this, and uh, to help in our
16 ability to comply with the recreation requirements
17 of our, of our FERC license.

18 And last, but not least, we do actually try to
19 have continued cooperative, working relationship
20 with Parks and Recreation, and with the communities
21 where we have facilities on recreation issues. So in
22 a nutshell that is pretty much our, our obligation.
23 I do want to emphasize this April 1st date is that
24 it is a date in which we will take the information
25 from this public meeting, any comments that we

1 receive from you or others, up until March 3rd, and
2 we will review them and evaluate them, and in
3 working with Parks and Recreation, we will make a
4 recommendation to FERC on trails' management in the
5 license area, FERC license area, 2100, which
6 includes, in most cases, all the of the State Park.
7 That's not entirely true, but it's pretty close. So
8 we will, there will be an action that we will
9 initiate with FERC at a later date on this so, thank
10 you. I hope to you hear some good comments.

11 MS. KROEN: Thank you, Dan. Ken, Ken
12 McKeon, McCuen, McGowen -- it's an optional last
13 name; Parks and Recreations' rep.

14 MR. MCGOWEN: Thank you, very much. It's
15 actually a pleasure to be here tonight. It's great
16 having so many people who are interested in trails.
17 By the way my name is Ken McKowen, for our reporter
18 down there, and I managed a state wide trails
19 program for California state parks. For the most
20 part a deal with the policy level of trails within
21 the state parks. Although, I do get out there when
22 the occasion arises and get my hands dirty also, I
23 spend a lot of time on them. One of the things that
24 we have within the state parks and what I am going
25 to do is give you a little background overview of

1 why we did what we did here, but from a state
2 prospective, and this is the State Department of
3 Parks and Recreations' prospective. We tend to look
4 at things a little broader scope, I suppose, then
5 what would happen here locally. One of the things
6 within the Department that we do is we manage
7 cultural and natural resources, and we're also
8 responsible for providing recreation for the public.
9 Now, often times those things tend to conflict with
10 another, but we work at it as best we can. Um, I am
11 going to throw a few statistics at you, but very
12 few. There's a thing that comes to mind from Mark
13 Twain, that there's three kinds of lies, there's
14 lies, there's damn lies, and there's statistics. So
15 what I'm going to talk about here is some of the
16 things we look at when we start looking at trails'
17 programs, or recreational programs in general,
18 within the state parks. Today there's about 35
19 million people in California, and I think by the
20 year 2010, which is only about 7 years, there's
21 gonna be 40 million people in California. Add
22 another 15 or so years to that, there will be 50
23 million people in California. Um, other numbers that
24 kind of again, that we look at within state parks,
25 um, and these statistics I saw here in the newspaper

1 a while back, California is gonna require something
2 like 250,000, new jobs every year to accommodate
3 this population growth. 200,000 new houses, and for
4 those of you who commute about six hundred more
5 motor vehicles are being added to the Highways,
6 every single day, and how do I tie that to trails.
7 Well, obviously, those people are coming to
8 California, they're going to be recreating out
9 there, and that's going to be one of our jobs, is
10 providing those trails for people.

11 State Parks, we have 273 of them is all. And
12 out of that we have about a total of about one point
13 four million acres, which for those of you who live
14 locally, it's about the same size as Plumas National
15 Forest here. Um, so what we have to do is try to
16 accommodate a lot of recreation in a small space for
17 a lot of people, and we do that by -- at least in
18 the last few years, looking at our trails' programs,
19 which is one of the most popular recreation
20 activities in the state parks, and looking to make
21 those trails open to more users. In conjunction with
22 that, one of the things that has come out just
23 recently, is -- there's a couple of copies up there,
24 because it's a California recreational trails plan
25 and within that plan there are twelve goals, and two

1 of those goals are specifically applicable to the
2 local area here. And what we did at Lake Oroville
3 as far as making Mindy's Trails, multi use. Um, one
4 of those goals calls for public use of trails.
5 Obviously, we want more people using trails.
6 Another statistic for you; about 700 thousand people
7 a year die from heart disease. Guess what the best
8 thing for preventing heart disease is? Diet and
9 exercise. Trails provide that. So were looking to
10 increase that. Um, another goal is that multi use
11 trail cooperation. We're looking to provide the
12 maximum opportunities for the public use of trails,
13 by encouraging the appropriate expansion of multi
14 use trails, and again, that's what we did here at
15 Lake Oroville.

16 There was a process that we went through at
17 Lake Oroville, and I say, "we" because I'm part of
18 the Department. I wasn't intimately involved in it.
19 But there was a notice of exception filed when we
20 started this project here a year and year and half
21 ago, and our legal counsel considered that to be
22 adequate. And that went to the State Clearing
23 House, and there was an opportunity for public, um,
24 public comment. Um, the Superintendent here also
25 brought together a small group of people. A couple

1 of local equestrians, a couple local mountain
2 bikers, and some of the professional staff, and they
3 went out and reviewed every trail within the
4 district, or within Lake Oroville, and took a look
5 at those, and they came back with recommendations,
6 about which trails should be open to multi use and
7 which trails shouldn't. The trails that were
8 identified as shouldn't being opened to mountain
9 bikes such as Sycamore Hill they will remain closed.
10 Those that were identified as being acceptable to
11 mountain bike use perhaps with some changes in the
12 alignment and sight lines, and side things like
13 that, those were open to multi use, and from what I
14 understand it's been working quiet well, so far. Um,
15 there's also another trail, I think we're going odd
16 even on those things right now, and that also seems
17 to be working. Perhaps if we can get some more work
18 done on those trails, that will also be open to full
19 time use by everybody.

20 One of the things we're certainly concerned
21 about is safety, and I know that's an issue that
22 comes up often when we start looking at mountain
23 bikes and equestrians and pedestrians on trails, and
24 that's one of the things we do take a look at, and
25 we take very seriously. I think any time you're out

1 there recreating, whether it be playing little
2 league baseball with your kids, or soccer, riding
3 horses, riding bicycles, there seems to be, there's
4 an inherent danger in those sports some more than
5 others, obviously. Um, we have a lot of injuries on
6 the lake with motor boats, and jet skis, and people
7 putting fish hooks through their fingers. But we
8 don't eliminate that because a few people are
9 injured, oh time. I'm almost done. Okay. She gave
10 me 10 minutes, so it's pretty close. Um, but anyway
11 we do a look at those things, we do review those on
12 a regular basis and if we have to make changes we
13 do. Part of this program is an educational program.
14 We put signs up, we educate people, that helps a
15 lot. Again, I thank you for being here. Um, I
16 think that we, I don't think I know, from our
17 prospective we want to continue with the multi use
18 trail program here in Oroville, and I hope that most
19 of you will agree with us. In fact, I hope, all of
20 you will agree with us. Thank you very much.

21 MS. KROEN: Okay. This is where I get to really um,
22 not do to justice to your names. I am going to
23 apologize to all of you for any of you that I
24 pronounce incorrectly. But if it sounds similar to
25 something that you've been called sometime in your

1 life, assume that I'm calling you.

2 I'll call, I'll call you in groups of ten. So
3 I'll call the first ten and if you can scoot up here
4 and be in a nice orderly line, so that you can come
5 up to the podium, follow the rules. I'm going to
6 give you three minutes each. When you have one
7 minute left I am going to say one minute, and when
8 you're out of time, I am going to say times up, and
9 I really appreciate it, and everybody else here who
10 wants to talk is going to appreciate it, everybody
11 staying within the time frame. All right, ready?
12 Any questions on how this is going to be done? All
13 right here's the first ten.

14 HARRY WILLIAMSON: Good evening. My name is Harry
15 Williamson. I work for the National Park Service,
16 I'm the high road lead for the western region. I've
17 been involved in this project, the new relicensing
18 project for about three years now. Just to let you
19 know what our standing is here of sorts. We're
20 basically, according to the Federal Power Act,
21 advisors to resource agencies in the areas of
22 recreation. Our basic goal is provide a wide array
23 of opportunities for recreation on any project. Uh,
24 I reviewed a number of things in this case. Mainly,
25 the '93 amendment, amended plan, the FERC order,

1 some of the correspondence that was generated since
2 that time, and most importantly, the latest FERC
3 letter that came here to DWR.

4 I've got just a few points to make, one of
5 which, and these have to do primarily with problems
6 I guess, that I see in the FERC letter and the
7 reasons that our recommendation would be the
8 solution to this near term, is to amend the plan to
9 correctly characterize the way trails are being used
10 right now. But one thing is that what happened
11 recently, was not so much a conversion to multi use
12 trails, as an acknowledgment of the way that they
13 have been used sort of in, in recent history.

14 Secondly, mountain bikes, the fact is in, in the
15 plan where it says mountain bikes were limited to
16 paved trails, was patently erroneous, and I'm sorry
17 that nobody picked that up in the review, because
18 they were not being managed that way in 1993. Uh,
19 thirdly, had to do with the consultation with the
20 local community, and I guess after looking at some
21 of the correspondence, and noticing that the park
22 management went through the normal clearing house
23 procedure for noticing, which is their normal
24 mechanism for that. And I think that that was
25 properly noticed. Finally, the FERC's order to

1 immediately convert back to the way things were, and
2 I'm glad to hear that DWR has got an impasse on that
3 decision, until an opportunity is made for this
4 hearing, and other thought and then hopefully to
5 amend the plan. Just to give you an idea because I
6 cover all of California and Southern Oregon, I deal
7 with a lot of different projects, a lot of different
8 agencies, is that our state policy for National Park
9 Service, as is Forest Service and clearly, California
10 Department of, of Parks and Recreation is that
11 wherever possible trails should be multi use, unless
12 there's an environmental reason or a social reason,
13 such as conflict, proven conflict, by users on it,
14 for it not to be, and there's a number of examples,
15 Folsom, Auburn, this facility as well, where, where
16 these users have peacefully coexisted for a long
17 time. So again, our recommendation is going to be
18 that for the benefit of the most people, that the
19 present plan be amended as soon as possible to
20 properly characterize the way the trails are being
21 managed at Oroville. Thank you.

22 SEAN ALLAN: Good evening. My name is Sean Allan.
23 I'm the president of the Folsom-Auburn Trail Riders
24 Action Coalition -- excuse me. Um, we are the local
25 MBA, mountain bike club in the Folsom-Auburn, area,

1 and I just want to hit on a few points that may not
2 actually get spoke about tonight. I look around
3 here, we got about a hundred or so people here
4 tonight, and many of you have much more involved in
5 the process itself. And um, I think what's being
6 lost in here is the amount of time that is being
7 spent fighting something that is proably inevitable.
8 Um, that's four or five hundred hours just involved
9 in this meeting, of time that could be spent a
10 little bit more positively, I would guess. It seems
11 to me this time would be better spent; A, doing
12 trail work on the trails that are out there, or B,
13 actually lobbying your local land managers for more
14 trails. Um, there is an option. I think we're all
15 going to have to realize at some point that
16 California is getting smaller, there's more people
17 are coming, and we're all gonna have to share and
18 get along at some point. It may not be right now,
19 but it's going to happen. Mountain bikes are not
20 going to be the last user group that comes along. It
21 bothers me really, to think about the amount of time
22 and more importantly, the amount of money that has
23 been wasted on this. I think the time really is to
24 come together, and start working together now, if we
25 don't do it now, we're going to be forced to do it

1 in the future, and it's getting uglier by the day.
2 So let's, let's try to pick it up and work together.
3 SUZY KEES: The midget speaks, no. My name is Suzy
4 Kees, I'm affiliated with FATRAC, the Folsome-Auburn
5 Trail Action Coalition. Um, I just want to
6 reiterate what Sean had said, um, yes we need more
7 people out there doing trail work, and also
8 education I feel is a big part of this. We need to
9 educate everybody on how to get along, and make sure
10 that we all know how to treat each other.
11 Especially, with the equestrians, I know horses are
12 a large animal, and they can be frightening, but if
13 we can be more educated as cyclists, about your --
14 about the equestrians and vice versa, I think we can
15 all get along well, and then we can have more
16 chances -- excuse me, of having more trails for
17 multi use, and also um, I really want to, um, I
18 just lost my train of thought. Anyways, I think
19 multi use trails, and having a lot of education to
20 all the users is one of our biggest focus points
21 that we need to do, thank you.
22 MARY SCHEER: Good evening, my name is Mary. I'm an
23 equestrian, and wife of a cyclist, and I am
24 definitely for the multi use trails. I feel that it
25 benefits our area as a whole. Um, it's great for

1 family outings. I ride horses, my husband and
2 children ride bikes. They all get along great and
3 it's a wonderful thing to have it now as multi use
4 so we can all go out together, and do things as a
5 family, and that's what this area is about. Um,
6 incorporating more family oriented, fun things to
7 do. This area is very short for things, on things
8 for families, and family use things. So, I think
9 it's a very good thing to keep it multi use. Um, I
10 know that since it's been open for a year now. That
11 there have been no incidents between cyclists and
12 horseback riders, and I do not see any reason for it
13 to be specifically for equestrians only, thank you.

14 STEVE EATOUGH-SMITH: Good evening, I'm Steve
15 Eatough-Smith. E-A-T-O-U-G-H, hypen, S-M-I-T-H. V
16 in the Steve. I lived for 11 in Fair Oaks, which is
17 part of the Auburn-Folsom, complex, and I spent a
18 lot of time jogging up and down the trails, and I
19 can't tell you how many, many times I've cursed
20 bikers as they were infringing on my right of way.
21 My wife gave me a mountain bike for my -- our
22 anniversary, and now I are one. And I also live
23 next door to, to people who own horses and I love,
24 dearly love riding horses, and I dearly don't want
25 to the offend them. Because I do dearly love riding

1 horses once in a while, but I don't want to scoop up
2 the manure, particularly. Um, I want to be able to
3 ride my bike with care, and safety, and respect
4 along the river, and don't know what it would take
5 to accomplish that. If it needs separate horse and
6 bike trails, it needs barricades down the middle of
7 the trails -- I don't know, but I would like to be
8 able to, for us to work together. And um, um,
9 personally, I'm of age now where we're really
10 working hard to combat my heart risk, risk factors
11 as well. And I really appreciate the chance to
12 speak um, and the -- I would like to echo the spirit
13 of one of the ones that spoke also already, um,
14 let's invest time in upgrading the trails, um, as I
15 said, I was in Fair Oaks for 11 years. If you
16 haven't been down there to look at the American
17 River bike way, it's a stunning, and wonderful, and
18 beautiful thing. Get a chance to go and look at it,
19 and gets some vision and, let's make it happen.

20 TERRY HODGES: My name is Terry Hodges. I just
21 retired after 30 years law enforcement. I was game
22 warden, and for 26 of those years I patrolled the
23 area that is now occupied by the Dan Beebe Trail,
24 and my duties as a warden um, I found that a
25 mountain bike was a good tool for my purposes. I,

1 and other wardens use those mountain bikes on a
2 fairly, regular basis. They're quiet. You can
3 cover a lot of ground. Um, it was a good tool for
4 us to use. I also patrolled those same trail
5 systems on, by foot, and I'm married to an
6 equestrian, and I had access to horses, and I
7 occasionally patrolled by horseback, as well. Now,
8 the point I want to make tonight is that I am aware,
9 and everybody should be aware, of the dangers
10 involved with equestrians when they're put in on the
11 trail with, with mountain bikes. Now, some areas I
12 agree are suitable for multi use, and I support
13 that. I think we should share when we have a good
14 situation where it will work. However, my
15 contention is that the Dan Beebe Trail is not
16 suitable for multi use. We were told for years that
17 uh, by Parks and Rec that it would not be multi use
18 because it was just not suitable. It would not
19 comply with their parameters for multi use. Now,
20 suddenly, here it is. It's upon us, and I've seen
21 portions of the Dan Beebe Trail change from a really
22 nice, all weather, single track trail, into a muddy
23 morass in the winter, and a dusty mess during the
24 summer, and it offends me greatly. And all this
25 puzzles me because we have, we have clear

1 alternative here. We have an alternative that was
2 already approved as an interim project, that being
3 what was known as the -- well, it was a single track
4 bicycle trail, a bicycle only trail. It was
5 approved, and why we're not implementing this, I
6 can't say. It puzzles me, and it bothers me that we
7 are treating it with such a simplistic fashion, this
8 business of polling equestrians and bicyclists;
9 "Have you had problems? Well, no, we haven't."
10 Well, the problem is it's going to be a situation
11 where, where factors conspire to, to cause a fatal
12 accident. When mountain bikes and horses meet in an
13 unfavorable place on the trail, we will have a
14 potentially lethal accident. It's in the cards.
15 It's going to happen. Now, we have an alternative,
16 and it's my hope that we will not sacrifice safety
17 for the sake of convenience, thank you.

18 VIVIAN MEYER: I'm Vivian Meyer, concerned citizen,
19 born in Oroville, and over 60 old, and I love to
20 ride horses. I'm not a horse owner, but I have been
21 invited many times to ride with friends, and you
22 know, we've heard things, words like "natural
23 resources." When I go on a ride it's because I like
24 the peaceful ride. I like to see nature. I like
25 the quiet. We also heard the situation about